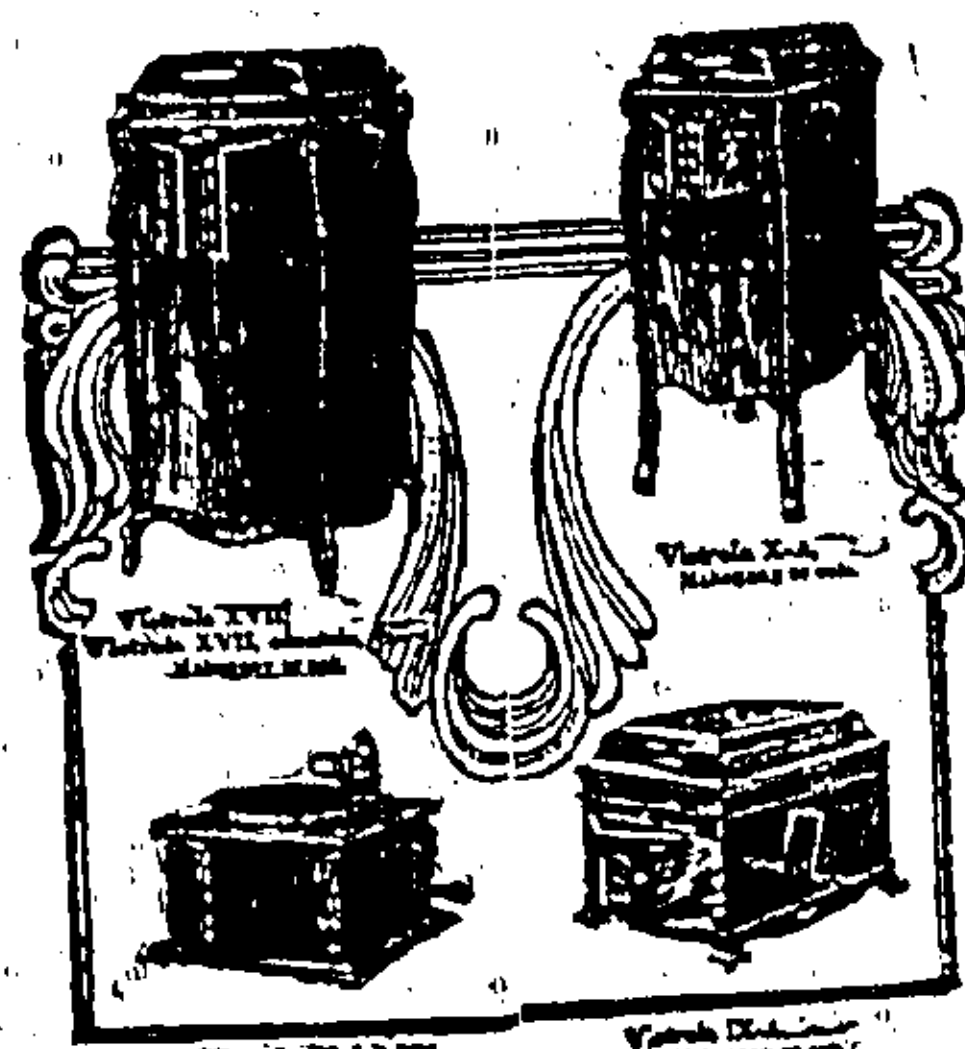


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THE APPEAL TRIBUNAL.

APPEAL OF LEVER BROS. (CHINA), LTD., FAILS.

The Governor-in-Council sat in the Council Chamber yesterday morning to hear an appeal by Messrs. Lever Bros. (China), Ltd., against the decision of the Tribunal that their representative in South China, Mr. L. D. MacNicol, should be enrolled.

H.E. the Governor presided, and there were also present H.E. the General Officer Commanding, the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, the Director of Public Works, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, Sir C. P. Chater, and Mr. C. H. P. Hay (one of the Assessors), and Major Morgan ("the Proper Military Authority").

Mr. Looker appeared on behalf of the Company, and at the outset asked for a short adjournment on the ground that the full body of assessors, upon whom the public largely relied in these appeals, was not present.

H.E. the Governor—We have a quorum.

Mr. Looker—I am aware of that, but the essential point is that there should be three Assessors here, not one only. I suggest a short adjournment to enable the other two to appear. I think that is strictly in accordance with the principles of the Bill and the promises to the public.

H.E. the Governor—There is no reason whatever why the other people should not be here. I have come a long way, and from a most tempestuous region.

Mr. Looker—There is no reason why they should not be here, but I would ask for a delay of a few minutes.

H.E. the Governor—I do not mind waiting until the 9.30 tram from the Peak comes in; I cannot wait any longer than that.

A few moments later Mr. Stabb arrived and the proceedings commenced.

Mr. Looker said he wished to preface what he had to say to the Council by reading a declaration made by Mr. James Quin, managing director of Lever Bros. (China), Ltd., in Shanghai, and went down here to lay before the Appeal Council. The declaration stated that the Company had been carrying on an ever increasing trade in China since the year 1904, and that the trade had not in any way been diminished by war conditions, but, on the contrary, had shown a large increase since the outbreak of the war. The export trade from the United Kingdom in soap amounted in the year 1914 to 1,735,900 cwt., and there was a steady increase up to last year, when the soap exported reached 2,533,733 cwt. The total net imports of soap into China in 1914 valued at Hk. Tls. 2,566,892 and in 1917 at Hk. Tls. 3,681,928, an increase of Hk. Tls. 1,115,120, or 43 per cent. The establishment of Messrs. Lever Bros., Ltd., was controlled by the Ministry of Munitions and the whole of the glycerine produced as a by-product in the manufacture of soap was taken by the Government for the use in the manufacture of high-explosives. Mr. MacNicol was the representative in South China, the operations for which territory were conducted from Hongkong. He was the only foreigner in charge of the South China trade and was essential for the proper carrying on and continuance of that trade. The declaration continued:—

"Owing to increase of business, arrangements had been made just prior to the outbreak of war for additional men to join the China Staff. Not only did we lose the services of this addition to our staff by these men joining His Majesty's Forces, but two of our staff from China are also serving. The Company's staff in China is reduced to the absolute minimum essential for the continuance of the Company's business. I am informed that the parent Company has between 5,000 and 6,000 men now serving in the army, and that immediately any of these obtains his discharge from the service he is immediately absorbed in the home business. There is therefore little prospect of our obtaining a man with sufficient experience of the business to replace any of the staff in China. I understand that it was suggested that Messrs. Harry Wickings & Co. of Hongkong might carry on during the war as Agents for the Company in South China. As to this I desire to impress upon the Tribunal the fact that Mr. MacNicol has a thorough knowledge of the interior organisation of the

Company's business and of the working of the South China trade, which it is impossible for that firm or any of its members or employees to replace. I implicitly believe that without Mr. MacNicol it would be impossible for the Company to continue its South China trade. For these reasons I feel that I am justified in asking the decision of the Tribunal refusing the exemption of Mr. MacNicol and in asking that such decision be reversed, or in the alternative, that exemption should be allowed for such time as will enable me to acquaint the head office in England with the position and obtain a reply."

Mr. Looker said since that statement had been made a cable had been received from Port Sunlight reading "We consider MacNicol is most necessary for carrying on your business, and can only suggest you use every effort in order to retain him." Continuing, Mr. Looker pointed out that Messrs. Lever Brothers were the biggest manufacturers of soap in the United Kingdom and perhaps in the world. They drew their raw supplies from all quarters of the British Empire and also from foreign countries. They had established factories in all quarters of the British Empire and in several foreign countries, including Japan. Like many other big concerns, they had recently turned their attention to China, where, as the Council well knew, there was a great field existing for the development of Western goods amongst the vast Chinese population. They commenced about 13 or 20 years ago in North China. They established themselves first of all at the Treaty Ports, but it being apparent that, if the business was to be developed to its fullest possible extent, it was necessary to make arrangements for the sale of their products in the interior of China, they proceeded to organise a system under which they could distribute and sell their products throughout the whole of North China. That system had been followed with great success by other large companies—the Standard Oil Company, the Asiatic Petroleum Company, the British and American Tobacco Company, and the Anglo-Swiss Milk Company. After giving details of the system, Mr. Looker said this organisation of Messrs. Lever Bros. (China) Company in North China proved enormously successful, and the sales of soap in the interior were increasing by leaps and bounds. It was necessary that the agent in charge should have had considerable experience of the actual manufacture of the soap at the head office of the Company at Port Sunlight, because the Company made various brands of soap adapted to different purposes and calculated to appeal to different classes of people. Recommendations to the Company regarding the qualities required to meet the needs of local districts could only be properly made by someone who had had experience at Port Sunlight. Mr. MacNicol had had four years' experience at the head office—experience at the head office was insisted upon by the Company before men were sent out to China—and he had also had one or two years' experience in the trade in North China. Finally, he was sent down here to organise a similar trade in South China. Previously to that the Company had established an agency in Hongkong under Messrs. Harry Wickings & Co. That was some ten or twelve years ago. That was some ten or twelve years ago, but the agency was confined solely to selling soap in Hongkong. No attempt was made to deal through that agency with South China, and the agency did not even go so far as to extend its operations to China. In 1914 the Company decided to endeavour to develop this vast field. It started by establishing an office in Canton, and after two or three months Mr. MacNicol was sent down here to organise and develop South China as an avenue for the sale of the Company's commodities. That meant that he had to make visits to many places, ascertain in what towns suitable merchants existed for carrying on the Company's trade, negotiate with those men, arrange for proper security and extension of the branches, and call upon them from time to time to see that the business was being extended as far as it was possible to extend it. The Council would see from the figures which had been placed before them that there had been continuous progress since 1913. The figures for 1913, 1914 and 1915 showed continual expansion, but when they come to 1916, 1917

and 1918, when the fruits of Mr. MacNicol's organisation became apparent, they would see that the expansion had been enormous. For 1918 the firm had made a *pro forma* estimate for practically double the amount of goods in South China compared with 1917, and so far as the first six months were concerned the estimates had come out with extreme accuracy. It was quite clear that this trade in South China was a growing one, was extremely important, and was capable of enormous development. The supplies were sent direct to Hongkong, where they were warehoused, and those supplies were coming forward regularly. They were distributed from here by ships and junks and through all other channels, throughout South China. That vast organisation had been initiated, and was being solely attended to, by Mr. MacNicol. There was no one else who knew anything about it. If the work had been going on for a considerable number of years and had been firmly established it would not be so important for Mr. MacNicol to remain, provided a competent and experienced man could be obtained to take his place; but to take Mr. MacNicol away from the organisation when he was just setting it on its feet would be disastrous. There were competitors waiting, sitting on the fence all round them. Messrs. Lever Bros. were able at present to get the better of them with regard to sales because they were able to lay down the goods at a cheaper price, but the competition existed and it was chiefly foreign competition and, if the trade which had been initiated and developed was to receive a setback through Mr. MacNicol being taken away, it would mean that their place would be taken by foreign competitors. He thought the Council would realise that trade of this description initiated in South China from the basis of Hongkong was most essential in the interests of this Colony. If there was one thing more than another which had contributed to the progress and success and development of this Colony it was the opening-up of South China to trade. There was nothing more important to this Colony than that it should remain and be made the basis of the extension of trade in South China by British interests. It meant a vast amount of goods being brought into the Colony, being stored here, and being distributed from here to the various places in the interior. If they attempted in any way to fetter or hamper the development of that trade they were injuring the essential interests of this Colony. Indents for soap had been made out on the estimate of the sales for this year. A great deal of that soap was on its way. A great deal of it had been specially made for the South China market. Supposing Mr. MacNicol was taken away and the agency was closed, what would happen to this soap? A great deal of it was unsuitable for other markets, so that it would, to all intents and purposes, be thrown away. The chief ground upon which the application for Mr. MacNicol's exemption was made before the Tribunal was one of Imperial interest. It appeared to him, and he thought it would appear to the Council also, that essential local interests were inevitably bound up with this trade. It was impossible to find anyone at present to replace Mr. MacNicol. Messrs. Harry Wickings & Co. had offered to devote some time, not their whole time, to superintending this trade, but that, of course, was of no use. If a man was not able to devote his whole time to the business and visit these agencies with the knowledge and experience gained in the organisation, then the trade would inevitably suffer. A whole-time man of experience was necessary, and if they took away Mr. MacNicol at this stage they would do serious injury to the essential interests of the Colony.

H.E. the Governor—How old are you, Mr. MacNicol?

Mr. MacNicol—Twenty-nine.

H.E. the Governor—Are you anxious to go?

Mr. MacNicol—I applied to the firm in the first place in 1914. I explained to the Tribunal the point taken by the firm and gave the reasons why the firm could not release me. I accepted those reasons then.

H.E. the Governor—You personally wish to go?

Mr. MacNicol—Oh, yes, I am quite willing to go.

H.E. the Governor—You have a desk, we will call it, in the firm of Harry Wickings & Co.?

Mr. MacNicol—I have an office and my own staff.

H.E. the Governor—Do you yourself see any reason why Messrs. Harry Wickings & Co.—a very reputable firm here—should not again carry on this agency?

Mr. MacNicol—It is not a question of carrying on the agency again, because the agency which Messrs. Harry Wickings & Co. carried on was purely local; it was confined to Hongkong. Now this business is in South China. They have not operated in South China.

H.E. the Governor—There is no reason why they should not take up the work, is there?

Mr. MacNicol—At the moment they have no man in the office to do it. In my opinion, if I go the up-country business will be very considerably curtailed.

H.E. the Governor—Have they been asked in so many words whether they can undertake this agency in South China, whether they can furnish travellers for this up-country business?

Mr. Looker—They have offered to look after it, as I informed the Council, but we asked them if they were prepared to let a man devote his whole time to it and they said they could not do so. As a matter of fact we know that they have no man in their office with the necessary capabilities and experience to attend to this up-country business as it must be attended to. They could, of course, as could anyone, keep an eye on it and do a little, but not sufficient to maintain the business.

H.E. the Governor—Have you that in writing?

Mr. Looker—No.

H.E. the Governor—You have not in writing the statement that they cannot look after the up-country business by means of their travellers?

Mr. Looker—They have no travellers.

H.E. the Governor—They can get travellers.

Mr. Looker—European travellers?

H.E. the Governor—My information happens to differ from yours. Have you made any attempt to obtain from the substitution-list another qualified business man?

Mr. Looker—We have inspected the substitution-list and I would like to state to the Council in confidence why we cannot take the only man there who might be capable.

H.E. the Governor (to Mr. MacNicol)—How much time, Mr. Mr. MacNicol, say in a month, do you employ visiting these places where, as I understand it, the soap is retailed?

Mr. MacNicol—That varies. Until the Subscription Act came into force I had a special arrangement with the military authorities whereby I could leave the Colony at any time without going through the usual formalities. That was necessary because at times I had to leave on receipt of a telegram. More recently, as the business has developed, there has been more to do in the office with accounts. That takes up more time here now. At the end of each month I must be in Hongkong for a week or ten days.

H.E. the Governor—How many trips a month do you make into that very pleasant land of China?

Mr. MacNicol—It varies very much. For a time I was travelling to Canton once a week.

H.E. the Governor—And Wuchow and these other places?

Mr. MacNicol—I go to Wuchow about three times a year.

H.E. the Governor—What is the average number of visits you make to the rural districts of China for the purpose of looking after the interests of your Company? That is what I want to get at.

Mr. MacNicol—It is very difficult to give a figure because it entirely depends on circumstances.

H.E. the Governor—Well, it cannot be very often.

Mr. MacNicol—It was sufficient to have a special permit to leave whenever necessary.

H.E. the Governor—It boils down to this, that the bulk of your time is spent in Hongkong and that you make periodic visits to the agencies.

Mr. MacNicol—Probably the bulk of my time is spent here because there is now more office work. Messrs. Harry Wickings & Co. do absolutely nothing for me in the office.

H.E. the Governor—Messrs. Harry Wickings are not the agents for the Company in South China.

The Colonial Secretary, referring to the Imperial interests involved, which it had been suggested were based on the fact that glycerine obtained from soap was required in the manufacture of explosives, asked whether the glycerine would be available if the sale of soap in South China came to an end.

Mr. Looker—I do not suppose even if you closed the whole of the business in South China and North China as well that the British Government would get any less glycerine. I submit that Colonial interests are far more likely to be affected by any stoppage of this trade than Imperial interests. At the same time, apart from the question of glycerine, it is obviously in the interest of the Empire that South China should be opened up as much as possible to British goods.

H.E. the Governor—Can you tell me the number of the European Staff Messrs. Lever Brothers have in China.

Mr. Looker—Five Europeans altogether. There were two more when war broke out. Mr. MacNicol is alone here.

In answer to the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, Mr. MacNicol said he did not speak Chinese. He took an interpreter with him when he went up-country.

The Council considered the case in private, and subsequently H.E. the Governor announced that the Council upheld the decision of the Tribunal, that no exemption should be granted to Mr. MacNicol.

The Council then adjourned.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

NEW ORDINANCES.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held yesterday afternoon at the Council Chambers.

The following were present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FRANCIS HENRY MAY, K.C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL F. VENTRIS (General Officer Commanding Troops in China).

Hon. Mr. CLAUD SEVERN, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. E. R. HALLIDAY (Secretary for Chinese Affairs).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C. (Hon. Member).

Hon. Mr. D. LANDALE (Hon. Member).

Hon. Mr. LAU CHU PAU (Hon. Member).

Hon. Mr. HO FOON (Hon. Member).

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Council).

PAPEERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table reports for 1917 from the Medical and Sanitary Departments, the Director of Education, the Land Officer, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, the Superintendent of Prisons, the Captain Superintendent of Police, the Police Magistrate's Court, the Director of Public Works, the General Post Office and the New Territories.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table regulations made by His Honour the Chief Justice under Section 3 of the Legal Practitioners Ordinances, 1871, and 1913, and moved that they be approved.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK seconded, and this was agreed to.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table Finance Minutes Nos. 28 to 33 and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and this was agreed to.

CHARGES OF THE YEAR 1917.

The COLONIAL TREASURER moved the first reading of a Bill intituled, "An Ordinance to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum of two million seven hundred and fifty-two thousand one hundred and fifty-two dollars and fifty-eight cents to defray the charges of the year 1917."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The sum is to be expended as follows:

—Harbour department, \$15,122.82; Miscellaneous Services, \$3,648,504.16; Military expenditure, \$982.87; Public Works, recurrent, \$20,108.43; Public Works, extraordinary, \$67,435.28.

COPYRIGHT ORDINANCE, 1918.

The COLONIAL TREASURER moved the first reading of a Bill intituled, "An Ordinance to modify and to add to the provisions of the Copyright Act, 1911, in its application to the Colony of Hongkong."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The "Objects and Reasons" state:—

1. The (Imperial) Copyright Act, 1911, which extends throughout His Majesty's dominions, subject as regards the self-governing dominions to the consent of the legislatures of those dominions, was brought into operation in this Colony on 1st July, 1912, by a proclamation which was issued on the 23rd June, 1912.

2. Section 27 of the Act gives to the legislature of any British possession to which the Act extends the power to modify or add to the provisions of the Act, within certain limits. Sub-section (7) of section 14 expressly provides that that section shall apply with the necessary modifications, and section 13 provides that sections 11 and 12 of the Act, which relate to summary remedies, shall extend only to the United Kingdom. Supplementary legislation is therefore necessary here (a) to make the necessary modifications in section 14, and (b) to provide for summary remedies.

3. Clause 2 of the bill makes the necessary modifications in section 14 of the Act. The clause is based on a skeleton enactment which is intended to be adopted in the colonies generally.

4. Clause 3 is section 11 of the Act. It is not necessary to enact any section

corresponding to section 12 of the Act, because a general right of appeal is given by the Magistrates' Ordinance, 1890.

5. When the bill becomes law it will also be necessary to make regulations under section 14 of the Act. A draft of the proposed regulations will be published at the same time as the bill. They are based on the regulations made in the United Kingdom.

ANGLO-PORTUGUESE COMMERCIAL TREATY ORDINANCE, 1918.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the first reading of a Bill intituled, "An Ordinance to repeal the Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty Ordinance, 1917."

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The "Objects and Reasons" state:—

The Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty Ordinance, 1917, was passed in order to enable the Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty to come into operation as regards the Colony of Hongkong, but, in view of difficulties which have arisen in connection with the application outside the United Kingdom of Article 6 of the Treaty, His Majesty's Government have now decided that the Colonies and Protectorates shall not adhere to the Treaty. It is therefore necessary to repeal the above Ordinance.

OPIMUM ORDINANCE, 1918.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the first reading of a Bill intituled, "An Ordinance to amend the Opium Ordinance, 1914, and the Opium Ordinance, 1917."

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The "Objects and Reasons" state:—

1. The object of this bill is to make two minor corrections in the texts of the Opium Ordinance, 1914, and of the Opium Ordinance, 1917.

2. Clause 2 corrects an obvious mistake in section 37 of the Opium Ordinance, 1917.

3. In section 2 of the Opium Ordinance, 1917, the word "resembling" is not sufficiently exact, as resemblance might not amount to a colourable imitation. Clause 3 amends the section so as to restrict it to colourable imitations.

REGULATION OF CHINESE ORDINANCE, 1918.

A Bill intituled, "An Ordinance to amend the Regulations of Chinese Ordinance, 1888, was down to be read a first time, but it was withdrawn.

Council then adjourned until Thursday, August 29th.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee followed, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

WONG NEI CHEONG RECREATION GROUND.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand dollars in aid of the vote Botanical and Forestry Department, Special Expenditure, Turfing at Wong Nei Cheong Recreation Ground.

The vote was agreed to.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and fifty dollars in aid of the vote Police and Prison Departments, B.—Fire Brigade, Incidental Expenses.

The CHAIRMAN—This sum is required to pay for the motor cars to convey members of the Fire Brigade to outlying districts. It is not a proper charge against the vote for incidental expenses which has hitherto borne these charges, and it is proposed next year to have a separate vote.

The vote was agreed to.

POLICE RESERVES UNIFORM.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of six thousand dollars in aid of the vote Police and Prison Departments, A.—Police, Other Charges, Clothing for Police Reserve.

The CHAIRMAN—The original vote for Police Reserve Uniforms was \$6,000 and up to the end of May \$3,591.50 had been expended. This additional vote is required to provide 450 capes at \$8.20 each—\$3,750 and 450 pairs of boots at \$7.25 each—\$3,262.50.

The vote was agreed to.

NEW TYPEWRITER.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of fifty dollars in aid of the vote Public Works Department, Establishment, Special Expenditure, Typewriter.

The CHAIRMAN—This additional sum is required to supplement the balance of the vote for a new type-writing machine.

The vote was agreed to.

COLONY'S CONTRIBUTION TO WAR FUNDS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one million five hundred and thirty thousand dollars on account of Miscellaneous Services, Contribution to Imperial Government for war purposes.

The CHAIRMAN—This represents a sum of \$250,000 which has been given by the Colony to H.M.'s Government for general purposes of the war. Unofficial members approved of this sum being given out of the surplus revenues of the Colony and the thanks of H.M.'s Government have already been received and published in the public Press.

The vote was agreed to.

PUBLIC WORKS IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of thirty thousand dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, (25) Extensions of Lighting, (26) Roads, (27) General Works.

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—This money is required for general works undertaken since the framing of the estimates. One item is for moving the public stables at Fanling to a more suitable site. Another item is the widening of the road at Hung-hom. This village has developed very rapidly and on market days there is such a congestion of traffic that the road way had to be considerably widened. A portion of the money is also needed for general road work at Shamshui.

The vote was agreed to.

TRANSPORT AND TRAVELLING.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two thousand and twelve dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Establishment, Other Charges, Transport and Travelling Expenses.

The CHAIRMAN—This sum is required to supplement the transport and travelling expenses voted. The new road work undertaken in the New Territories and outlying districts has led to more field allowances to foremen and surveyors. It is thought this sum will be sufficient for the remaining seven months.

The vote was agreed to.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of seventy-five thousand dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Recurrent, Hongkong Water Works, (19) Maintenance of City and Hill District.

The CHAIRMAN—During the long dry season, the new reservoir had to be depended upon for water and continuous pumping was necessary. The extra cost of coal was very considerable and resulted in this large supplementary vote being required.

The vote was agreed to.

MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of thirteen thousand dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Recurrent, (1) Maintenance of Buildings.

The CHAIRMAN—A number of small sums, the largest being \$1,600 and all the others under \$1,000, for the maintenance of certain public buildings, police stations, markets, schools, etc., amounting to \$4,340 were transferred to this vote from the Improvement of Buildings vote. Certain buildings were added. The Government purchased two houses on the Peak, Lyshott was completely renovated and Landerger partly renovated, and also houses on Morrison Hill which came into the possession of the Government on the resumption of that property.

The vote was agreed to.

POLICE SEARCHING SHED AT TAIPO.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars in aid of the vote Kowloon-Canton Railway, Special Expenditure, Police Searching Shed on Railway Wharf at Taiipo.

The CHAIRMAN—This is a small shed built at the end of the pier at Taiipo. It is an examination shed for the police and also forms a very convenient shelter in wet weather.

The vote was agreed to.

LEGAL CHARGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of six thousand and fifty dollars in aid of the vote Crown Solicitor's Office, Other Charges, Extra Legal Expenses.

The CHAIRMAN—Since the estimates were prepared the Government has had to employ additional legal assistance in one or two cases which the Attorney-General was unable to take. On the Assize cases the amount expended was about \$1,000 and another \$1,000 is added for the rest of the year. The balance is for outside legal assistance in the recent banishment case.

The vote was agreed to.

AGRICULTURAL WIRELESS STATION.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of seventy dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Miscellaneous, Cape d'Agulhar Wireless Telegraph Station—Repairs to roofs, construction of a tennis court, and wire netting for same, water supply, paths, etc.

The CHAIRMAN—This is a small balance required for works at Cape d'Agulhar.

The vote was agreed to.

ROADS WIDENING.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of fourteen thousand and three hundred dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, Communications, (42) Roads: (c) Ping Shan to Castle Peak, Widening to 20ft.

The vote was agreed to.

CHARITABLE ALLOWANCES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of five hundred dollars in aid of the vote Charitable Services, Other Charitable Allowances.

The CHAIRMAN—The master of the "Kueichow" lost the sight of one eye when his boat was pirated. A certain sum was raised on his behalf by public subscription and this amount is intended to supplement that as there is no compensation otherwise and the Government thinks it certainly is a case in which some compensation should be paid to the man for the injuries received.

The vote was agreed to.

REPAIRS TO FIRE BRIGADE PLANT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of five hundred dollars in aid of the vote Police and Prison Departments, B.—Fire Brigade, Other Charges, Repairs to Engines and Plant.

The CHAIRMAN—The original vote was for \$3,000 but the repairs this year have been very heavy. It is thought that this additional \$500 will be sufficient, but next year a sum of \$5,000 will be asked for.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Have steps been taken to improve the fire extinguishing appliances at Kowloon?

The CHAIRMAN—That comes next year. Certain things have been ordered for both here and Kowloon. There is also question of providing a fire station there.

The vote was agreed to.

LIGHTING IN KOWLOON.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of four hundred dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, (25) Extensions of Lighting, Kowloon.

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—It was pointed out by the Police that several streets in Kowloon were inadequately lighted, and new gas lamps and new electric lights have been provided in some places. The total cost was \$1,400 and \$1,000 had been provided.

The vote was agreed to.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two thousand nine hundred dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Recurrent, (29) Gas Lighting, Kowloon.

The CHAIRMAN—The cost of the maintenance of these lights has to be provided for and a general increase of 20 per cent. has been granted to the Gas Company on their lighting contract from January 1st last, owing to the large increase in the cost of coal. The subject was gone into very carefully and it was at last agreed that a 20 per cent. increase was fair.

The vote was agreed to.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of four hundred and fifty dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Recurrent, (30) Electric Lighting, Kowloon.

The CHAIRMAN—The previous vote was for only \$250. This \$250 is required for the electric lights in addition to the vote.

The vote was agreed to.

DAMAGE BY RAIN.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of three thousand dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Recurrent, New Territories, Miscellaneous, (35) Typhoon and Rainstorm Damages.

The CHAIRMAN—This sum is required for the work of repairing the damage caused by landslides and the heavy rain.

The vote was agreed to.

THE RACECOURSE DISASTER.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two hundred and fifty-three dollars and sixty cents in aid of the vote Crown Solicitor's Office, Special Expenditure, Happy Valley Disaster.

The CHAIRMAN—This sum is in connection with the enquiry into the disaster at Happy Valley. The architect's fee for giving evidence, and preparing plans was \$200 and the balance is for a shorthand writer transcribing the Coroner's summing up.

The vote was agreed to.

COLONIAL NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of five hundred pounds on account of Miscellaneous Services, Grant in aid of the Colonial Nursing Association.

The CHAIRMAN—The Association is in great need of funds. It has done a great deal of work in Crown Colonies and Protectorates and H.E. the Governor wishes to bring before the Finance Committee the question of making a grant of \$500 to the Association.

The vote was agreed to.

FERRY SERVICE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of eleven thousand dollars in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, Miscellaneous, Resumption of Ferry Piers.

The CHAIRMAN—This vote appeared in the estimates of 1917 and has not been spent. It is therefore, merely a re-vote. The sum is necessary to acquire these piers for the new Ferry Service.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—At what stage is that question now?

The CHAIRMAN—Tenders have been called for. The service comes into force on January 1st next.

The vote was agreed to.

NAVAL TENNIS COURTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and sixty dollars in aid of the vote Miscellaneous Services, Improvement to Naval Tennis Courts.

The CHAIRMAN—This sum is to provide two tennis courts for the Tamar and the Royal Naval Dockyard. There are no naval funds from which the cost can be defrayed.

The vote was agreed to.

BATHING PLACES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of forty dollars in aid of the vote Class I Item 9, Miscellaneous Services, Bathing Places, North Point and Kennedy Town.

The CHAIRMAN—This small sum is to pay the balance of wages of two watchmen at North Point.

The vote was agreed to.

AMMUNITION.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of nine thousand eight hundred and eighty-three dollars and forty-nine cents in aid of the vote Hongkong Defence Corps, Other Charges, Ammunition.

The CHAIRMAN—The ammunition was ordered some time ago but the account from the Crown Agent was not received until last April and no allowance was made in the current accounts estimate. It is, therefore, necessary, in order to be quite correct to provide a special vote for this instead of paying for it out of the votes under the charge of the Defence Corps.

The vote was agreed to.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS ISSUED BY MR. F. C. JENKIN, C.B.E.

Note 1, printed on the back of the present Patrol Report Form, is cancelled. These Reports will in future be sent to this Office within 4 days of the termination of each Patrol period. Reports for the period July 18th—August 21st will therefore be sent in on or before August 25th. Reports for the month of July already sent in should be collected from this Office.

All ranks will attend as under at H.Q. Office and draw belts. Platoon and Section Commanders will attend in uniform. Uniform optional for other ranks:—

Monday, August 19th.—No. 2 Platoon, 5.15 to 5.45 p.m.

Tuesday, August 20th.—No. 3 Platoon, 5.15 to 5.45 p.m.

Tuesday, August 20th.—No. 4 Platoon, 5.45 to 6.15 p.m.

Wednesday, August 21st.—No. 5 Platoon, 5.15 to 5.45 p.m.

Wednesday, August 21st.—No. 6 Platoon, 5.45 to 6.15 p.m.

Thursday, August 22nd.—No. 7 Platoon, 5.15 to 5.45 p.m.

Thursday, August 22nd.—No. 8 Platoon, 5.45 to 6.15 p.m.

Friday, August 23rd.—No. 1 Platoon, 5.15 to 5.45 p.m.

LANE, CRAWFORD

AND COMPANY.

SOME WELL-KNOWN BRANDS OF

AMERICAN

GROCERIES AND OILMEN'S STORES

IN STOCK

Booth's Herrings in Tomato Sauce.

"Jello-O" Powdered Jellies.

Knox's Gelatine Powder.

"Royal" Baking Powder.

Campbell's Soups.

Kellogg's Toasted Cornflakes.

Borden's Malted Milk.

Grape Nuts.

Ralston's Select Bran.

"Red Jacket" Lobster in tins.

Heinz Soup and Baked Beans.

Heinz Tomato Sauce and Stuffed Olives.

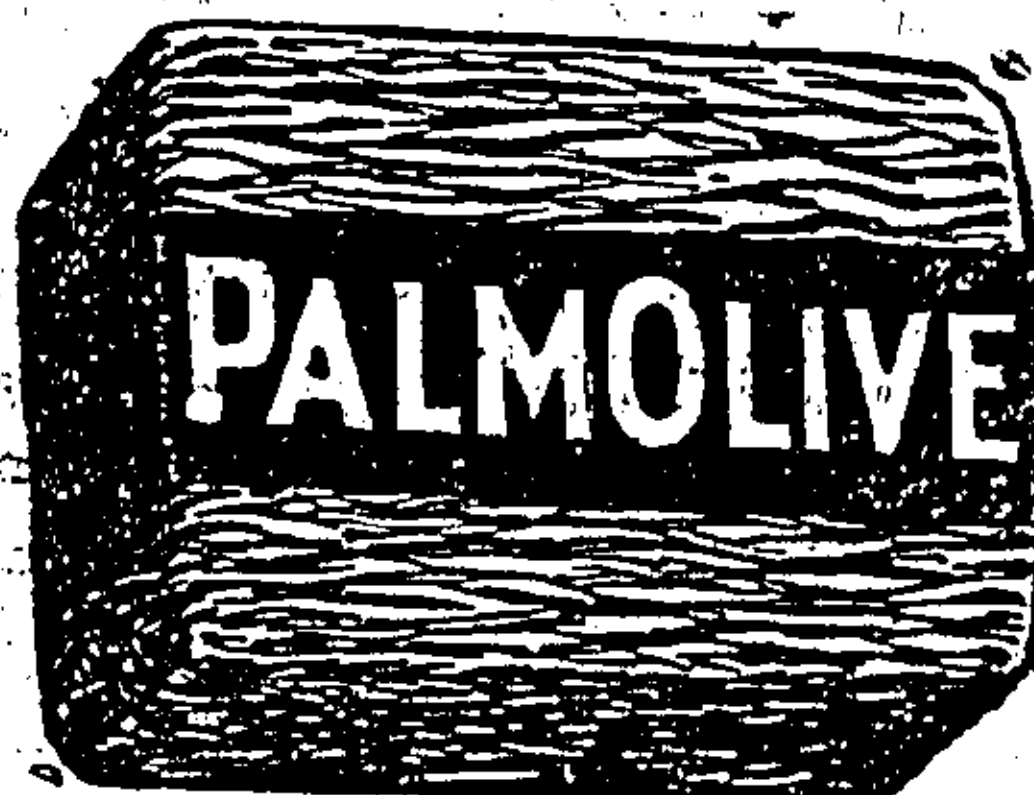
"Old Dutch Cleanser."

Babbitt's pure concentrated Lye.

Fels Naptha Soap.

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PALMOLIVE SOAP



SPECIAL PROPOSITIONS TO DEALERS

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Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.,

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TELEPHONE 346

TAILORING DEPARTMENT.

SPECIAL SHIPMENT

JUST RECEIVED OF GENTLEMEN'S

HIGH-CLASS

RAINCOAT MATERIALS.

WELL-CUT, COMFORTABLE COATS

IN MANY SMART STYLES FROM

\$30.00

INSPECTION INVITED.

SHING KEE CO.

SODA MERCHANTS,

IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS

OF

INTIMATIONS

CHINESE POSTAL GUIDE.

THE CHINESE POSTAL GUIDE (7th Issue) is now issued for Sale, and applications may be sent to the Postal Commissioner, Canton.

Price English Version Each ... 50 cents.
Supplement Each 3 cents.

Price Chinese Version Each ... 10 cents.
Supplement Each 1 cent.

CHINESE POST OFFICE.
Canton, 13th August, 1918. [2317]

THE BANK OF CHINA.

NOTICE.

ORIGINALLY when the BANK OF CHINA called for Subscriptions towards the FOURTH YEAR DOMESTIC LOAN, Blank Forms of Receipt were sent throughout the Country for the sake of convenience. When payment for Bonds was made the Receipts had to be stamped in two places with the Bank Special Receipt Chop and the Signature of the Bank Agent also affixed to the Receipt. After the Subscription was closed it was found that certain blank Receipts marked "YIN" (銀) which had been given to the BANK OF CHINA, Hongkong Agency, had not been returned, the Agent explaining that they had been LOST in Local Disturbances. We considered that as these Receipts bore no Signature nor Chop they were no proof of payment and therefore we did not concern ourselves with them. Recently, after several years, it has been discovered that these Blank Forms have been sent to Peking, particulars of money filled in and presented to the Head Office of the Bank in application for Bonds.

We have already notified Merchants that these Receipts had been LOST owing to Local Disturbances and we now again publish the facts in the Press for the information and as a warning to the Public.

BANK OF CHINA.
Canton, 13th August, 1918. [2318]

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED, having acquired the whole of the houses in Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon, are prepared to make arrangements whereby any of their tenants, who desire to do so, may become the owners of the dwellings now in their occupation by purchasing them on the instalment system.

J. M. ALVES & Co.
[2307]

NOTICE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG invites applications for temporary posts of LECTURERS in the Faculty of Engineering during the Session 1918-19 in the following subjects:—Geometrical Drawing, Machine Drawing, Elementary Materials, Hydraulics. Particulars as to remuneration, etc., can be obtained from the Registrar.

[2308]

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in an INVESTMENT which, in return for an outlay of £100 per annum for five years, will thereafter return you an income of from £500 to £1,000 per annum, write for full particulars to AFRICAN REALTY TRUST, Ltd. (Capital £340,000 fully subscribed), 36, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2, England.

[2294]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE.

THE DIVIDEND DECLARED for the Half-Year ending 30th June, 1918, at the rate of TWO POUNDS THREE SHILLINGS SIXPENCE per Share, is payable on and after MONDAY, the 12th day of August, Current, at the Offices of the Corporation, where Shareholders are requested to apply for Warrants.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 10th August, 1918. [2310]

WANTED.

NURSE WANTED. European preferred.

Apply—
Mrs. A. R. LOWE,
65, The Peak.
[2318]

WANTED.

SMALL FLAT or BUNGALOW from September onwards.
Replies, giving full particulars, to—
Box 2309,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[2309]

G. E.

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Chinaman desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or Identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION or PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

66

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

A GODOWN. Central District.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
[2361]

TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings,
3000

TO LET.

COMMODIOUS and Centrally Situated NEW OFFICES, with lift, in the old Mercantile Bank Buildings, corner of Queen's Road Central and Ice House Street.

Also in Canton House, No. 31, Shamelin, British Concession.

For rent and further particulars apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.,
84, Des Vaux Road.
[2317]

TO LET.

HOUSES on Shamelin, Canton.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
[2318]

DAIRY FARM NEWS

JUNKET!

Cannot be excelled with tinned or fresh stewed fruit.

COULOMMIER CHEESE!

COTTAGE CHEESE!

Nourishing and ideal food.

DEVONSHIRE CREAM!

Can always be had.

We supply Junket Tablet on application.

1528

PLANTING PAKRO SEEDTAPE is easy. You do not have to replant or transplant, because the seeds germinate and are the correct distance apart.

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No. 10, WYNDHAM STREET,
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P.O. Box 622.
[2316]

WAI KEE.

FLAG & SAILMAKER.

No. 122, Des Vaux Road Central,
Top Floor,
HONGKONG

Telephone No. 1838.
[2317]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "ECUADOR"

FROM SAN FRANCISCO, HONOLULU
JAPAN PORTS, SHANGHAI AND
MANILA.

THE above-mentioned vessel having arrived from the above-mentioned ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Cargo will be landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra Hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk.

Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import Permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before the Bills of Lading can be countersigned.

All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on THURSDAY, 15th Aug., 1918, at 10 A.M.

All Claims must be presented within a month of the Steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 17th Aug., 1918, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected. Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately.

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.,
J. ORAM SHEPHERD,
Acting Agent,
Hongkong, 10th August, 1918. [2318]

ON SALE.

BOUND VOLUMES of the HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS, January to June, 1918.
With Index, Price \$7.50.
On Sale at the HONGKONG DAILY PRESS Office.

INTIMATION.

REXONA.

THE RAPID HEALER.

COOLING. SOOTHING.

HEALING ANTISEPTIC

OINTMENT.

A RELIABLE REMEDY FOR ALL

ERUPTIONS AND IRRITATIONS

OF THE SKIN.

USEFUL FOR ECZEMA, STINGS OF

INSECTS AND ALL KINDS OF

INFLAMMATION.

Sold in tins 75 cts. & \$1.25.

A. S. WATSON &

CO., LTD.,

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

TEL. 16.
[2319]

MARRIAGE.

BANNERMAN—HALANAL.—At Hongkong, on August 15th, GEORGE HENRY MACLEAN BANNERMAN to SOPHIA HALANAL.
[2319]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, Des Vaux Road, C.
LONDON OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 16th August, 1918.

THE ALLIES' HANDICAP.

A fact often overlooked in connection with the war is that although in *posse* the material resources of the Allies preponderate, yet in *esse* their power hitherto has not been equal to that of the enemy. For, throughout the whole of the past four years only two of the Allies—France and Italy—have been able to strike the Central Powers on land with their full force. Russia, which rendered such valuable aid in the earlier stages of the war, failed her Allies at a most critical time and placed them in a very difficult, if not desperate, position. It must have been a most trying and anxious time for all the Allied Governments, and we never can be too thankful for the mastery way in which our statesmen met the situation. Although, as a result, unity of command has been attained, the Allies are still fighting under many and great disadvantages, chief amongst which is the fact that whereas the forces of the enemy are centralized their own have to be gathered from the four corners of the earth. Canada, like America, is three thousand miles distant from the seat of war, while Australia and New Zealand are at the antipodes. When we consider it, the work of the Allies in collecting their scattered forces and transporting them to the war-zone in spite of an unscrupulous foe's efforts to thwart them, is in itself a stupendous achievement equal to the actual fighting. To convert our power *in posse* into a power *in esse*—that is, to concentrate our available force at the required point at the proper time—needs even greater foresight and administrative skill than that demanded of the Commander-in-Chief on the battlefield in

arranging and disposing of his armies in the most effective manner. For their services in this connection we are eternally indebted to our Navy and Mercantile Marine, assisted by the naval forces of our Allies. If the submarine peril had not been "scotched" the immense resources of the Allies could never have been brought to bear on the field of battle, and victory for the Allied cause would have been impossible. Thanks to her long preparation for war and to her interior lines of communication, Germany's power was doubled, and it is surprising that, with such advantages she was not able to achieve more. It will call for the most gifted historians to chronicle the wonders wrought by the Allies during the past four years. We trust that before the fifth year of the war has ended the sword will be returned to its scabbard, and that the Allies will be able to address themselves with equal skill to the reconstruction of those battered countries and peoples who have sacrificed everything for honour and liberty.

CHINESE PRESS AND THE ALLIES' SUCCESS.

ALTHOUGH China declared war against Germany some months back it cannot be said that the Chinese people wholly approved of the action. As a matter of fact, they were very much overawed by German militarism, which most of them regarded as invincible; and while well disposed to other foreigners they stood in dread of Germany. Nothing was too absurd or too improbable if the Kaiser should determine to visit his displeasure upon China. One reason why President Li Yuan-hung was reluctant to go to war with Germany was that he feared Hindenburg's armies would continue their triumphal march through Russia until they reached Peking. However fantastic that may appear to us, it was very real to many Chinese. German propaganda, assisted by a series of spectacular successes, made it seem to them as if nothing could withstand the might of Germany on land. Such was the distorted view widely held by Chinese, and it served to illustrate the necessity for a corrective. The Allies' counter-offensive on the Western Front has had a greater effect in inducing a change of opinion than any previous Allied success. This change is strikingly reflected in the Press. For instance, the *Mingpao* urges the Central Powers to make peace with the Allies, for "the defeat suffered by the Austrian and German armies in Italy and France show clearly that a complete military victory over the *Entente* is impossible, especially now that the young American army had proved itself capable of attacking the experienced German troops victoriously. Previous to the Franco-American victory in France, the majority of the Chinese people, especially Chinese military officers—most of whom were trained in Germany and Japan, or educated in China under German and Japanese military instructors—expressed great doubt about the ability of the inexperienced Americans (regarded by the Chinese as rich shopkeepers who think that money can do everything in this world) to combat successfully the Germans on the Western Front. The Chinese did not believe that the United States, though richer than Russia, could train in a hurry her peace-loving, democratic citizens, to replace the Russian soldiers in the battlefield against the Germans. Now the Franco-American victory has shown the intelligent Chinese what the American army can do, and has raised the prestige of the Americans in the Far East as a military people." Other newspapers write in a similar strain.

Interesting local news will be found on page 6.

If the writer of the verses "They're Ready to Assist" will send us his name in confidence, we shall be pleased to publish his contribution.

The number of cases heard at the Magistracy in 1917 was 11,922 as compared with 15,057 in 1916, and the revenue was \$75,391.17 as compared with \$108,664.82 in 1916.

The Consul-General for the Netherlands has received a telegram from the Government of Netherlands-India stating that the "import of foreign tea will be prohibited as from September 15th."

We hear from Foochow, that the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China is closing the agency which has been established there for the past 47 years. The bank expresses the great regret it feels at severing a connection of such long standing; but points out that the impossibility of filling the vacancies caused in its staff throughout the Far East, by men leaving for military and naval service, coupled with the passing of the Conscription Act in Hongkong, and the recent decision of the Hongkong Tribunal regarding two more of the bank's assistants, leaves it with no alternative.

THE MURDER AT WANCHAI.
ACCUSED COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.
THE ACCURACY OF PRESS REPORTS.

At the Magistracy, yesterday, before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, Luk Chi was charged, on remand, with being concerned in the murder of a Chinese amah named Kwan Kwan, at No. 5, East Block, Military Quarters, on the morning of July 25th.

Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared for the defence. Before the proceedings commenced, Mr. Goldring stated that, although attention had been called by the Magistracy to inaccurate reports appearing in the Press, one of the evening papers on Wednesday, in reporting this case, gave Sergeant's Marriott's evidence, although he was never called. He asked the Magistracy to call attention to the matter. It was a most extraordinary thing. When he read the paper he was flabbergasted. If the reporters would kindly take a little more care, it would be well.

Mr. Wolfe—I may say that one of the reporters—a reporter of the *Daily Press*—came to see me this morning in connection with the matter, and I am satisfied that, as far as he is concerned, the remarks made do not apply, because, in my opinion, he is doing his utmost to give an accurate account of what takes place in this Court. I think, in justice to the *Daily Press*, I should say this.

Mr. Goldring—That is so. I did not mention the paper because it would have been injurious. Continuing, Mr. Goldring said he trusted that his relations with the Press were good; at the same time, as a member of the legal profession appearing before the Magistracy, he thought he should make those remarks. He did not refer to any particular paper when he made them, and he thought that, if the Magistracy expressed it, all the reporters would be a little more careful. He had heard complaints from members of his profession of the extraordinary inaccuracy in some reports. To give the evidence of a man who was not called was, he thought, going a bit too far.

Mr. Wolfe thought the best course for him to adopt would be to call the reporters together, and bring the matter to their notice. He had already seen the reporter of the *Daily Press* and was quite satisfied in his mind that the reporter of the *Daily Press* was doing his utmost to give an accurate account of what took place in the Court. As far as he knew, in connection with this case, he did not think the *Daily Press* had been inaccurate at any time. He asked whether Mr. Goldring had observed any inaccuracies.

Mr. Goldring—No. Continuing, Mr. Goldring said it was a very serious matter for his client as the case would obviously be committed for trial.

P.C.M.O.'S EVIDENCE.

Dr. J. T. W. Johnson, P.C.M.O., deposed that he examined the accused on August 5th and the three succeeding days. He appeared to be sane. With regard to his mental condition at the time of his offence, he formed the opinion that the accused had been suffering from continual provocation (according to his statement) and had lost his self-control. The accused showed no signs by which witness could form the opinion that his brain was not normal.

Sergeant "Kid" Marriott said that on July 25th at about 8.45 a.m. he was on duty at the Ordnance Gate when Master Hazeland came up and made a report to him. He went into No. 5, and found the accused standing on the verandah, looking at the amah. He seemed to be deep in thought. Mrs. Brock, who was standing by, pointed to the accused and said, "That's the man, Mr. Marriott." Witness asked the defendant if he had seen "this," but the latter said nothing. Witness caught hold of the accused by the arm and took him to the Naval Arsenal, near Queen's Road. The accused gave a start as if he wanted to run away, and witness gave him a punch on the jaw. This quieted him.

Mr. Goldring—He didn't get unconscionable? Witness: No, sir.

The Magistracy—That particular blow, if given very hard, would have that effect?—Witness: Yes, sir, if hit hard.

Witness continuing, said that the accused had blood on his coat and trousers, and two of his fingers on his left hand were bleeding. Witness had a revolver at the time. He handed the accused over to the Police.

Gross-examined, the witness stated that the accused seemed to be a bit silly in his eyes. He maintained the same dull attitude as he had shown at the outset, till he made the start on the road.

Tam Chin Fong, the Sergeant Interpreter of No. 2 Police Station, put in a statement made by accused on the morning after the murder. According to this, he said:—"I did stab her; I did not take her money."

Inspector Sim said that when he went to the house he found the deceased lying on the verandah, outside Mrs. Brock's door. Witness had her removed in an ambulance to the Hospital. He found the blood-stained knife produced on the table in the cook-house. The first traces of blood were 12 feet away from the cook-house door. There was blood on the bathroom floor. The bed-room, also, was smeared with blood.

Mr. Goldring said he reserved his defence. The accused was committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions next month, on a charge of murder.

FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

FRENCH TROOPS AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

LONDON, August 14th.
The *Times* correspondent at Vladivostock, telegraphing on August 9th, states:—French troops were marched through the streets and were greeted by friendly crowds.

ANGLO-JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

The *Times* correspondent at Tokio, telegraphing on August 10th, states that a diplomatic mission will be attached to the Japanese Expedition to Siberia headed by Mr. Matsudaira, ex-Consul at Tientsin.

The British Authorities have already taken similar measures. Mr. Alston, councillor to the Legation at Peking, is already at Vladivostock.

[THROUGH HAVAS AGENCY.]

WELCOME TO FRENCH TROOPS.

PARIS, August 14th.
A French contingent landed yesterday at Vladivostock.

The troops were welcomed by the Czechoslovak representatives, the French Consul and local authorities. They marched through the streets, receiving a rousing welcome from the people.

THE TYPHOON.

JUST MISSES HONGKONG.

The typhoon which was expected to strike Hongkong yesterday passed within about 20 miles of the Colony in the early hours of the morning, and last evening it was believed to be north of Macao. Cyclonic weather had been experienced since Wednesday evening, and all yesterday there were violent rain-qualls.

On Wednesday afternoon fierce gusts of wind indicated the proximity of a typhoon, which was reported as being almost stationary about 116 deg. Long. E. and 20 deg. Lat. N. Weather prophets foretold that it would reach the city in the small hours. Shortly after 6 a.m. yesterday the black cross was hoisted and three bombs were exploded, indicating that the full force of a typhoon might be expected at any moment.

The Observatory report, issued yesterday, stated that the typhoon had curved northward during Wednesday evening, and had passed between Hongkong and Gap Rock, travelling in a north-westerly direction, and entering the coast over the Canton delta.

The official forecast for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day is:—"south-westerly gale; moderating; cloudy, squally, rain, improving later." Up to 6 p.m. yesterday this forecast proved quite correct, for it had rained intermittently all day. The rainfall registered between 10 a.m. on Wednesday and 6 p.m. yesterday was 4.98 inches.

Yesterday morning, the ferry service was suspended, but was resumed in the afternoon. All work in the harbour was completely stopped. The harbour itself presented a desolate appearance, the native craft having flocked into the typhoon refuge, and many of the ships having sought shelter.

The Police confirm the report that one of two junks which were being towed by a launch, upset. Four men were thrown into the water, but they managed to climb into the other junk.

In the city itself, up to yesterday evening, though at times tiles or parts of glass roofs were loosened by the gale and fell into the road, no serious damage had been reported. Mrs. Cheung, the photographer, had his glass roof blown off.

The baseball match fixed for yesterday evening was not played owing to the inclemency of the weather. The Race Course resembled a miniature lake.

Several small landslides are reported as having occurred in Morrison Hill Road.

The work at the Magistracy was hindered by the weather. In one instance a case was listed for 10.30 a.m., but the solicitor engaged did not put in an appearance till about 11.10 a.m., his explanation being that the rain was too strong for him to venture out as he could not procure a chair. Another case, which was to be heard in the afternoon, had to be postponed owing to the inability of certain witnesses living in Yau-matui, to attend the Court.

TYPHOON WARNING.

The following telegram has been received by the American Consulate-General, Hongkong, from the Manila Observatory:—

August 14th, 6 p.m.
Typhoon in about 114deg. Long E. and 20deg. Lat. N., moving west.
August 15th, 9.45 a.m.
Typhoon in about 113deg. Long E. and 22deg. Lat. N., moving N.N.W.

THE WAR.

FRENCH GAINS AT LASSIGNY CONSOLIDATED.

ALLIED DRIVE RESULTS IN 360,000 ENEMY CASUALTIES.

COUNTER-REVOLUTION SPREADING IN RUSSIA.

CZECHO-SLOVAKS RECOGNISED AS ALLIES BY GREAT BRITAIN.

TWO MESSAGERIES MARITIMES LINERS SUBMARINED.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

MINOR WARFARE.

LONDON, August 14th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Hostile artillery were active at night-time on the battle front, but there was no infantry action.

We repulsed local attacks in the Diekebusch sector at mid-day on Tuesday. There was considerable hostile artillery firing in this neighbourhood at night-time; also north-west of Kemmel.

We captured a few prisoners in a successful raid in the neighbourhood of Arette.

Our patrols made progress in the Vieux-Berquin sector, and established our line to the east of the village, capturing a number of prisoners.

Our line was advanced slightly east of Mierden.

IMPORTANT ADDITIONS.

Paris, August 14th.

The newspapers point out that the 23,000 prisoners and 600 guns mentioned in last night's report by Sir Douglas Haig include only the captures by the armies of General Rawlinson and General Debeney, to which should be added General Humbert's 10,000 prisoners and 400 guns.

CONCEALED CENTRES OF RESISTANCE.

LONDON, August 14th.

The following amplifies the captured Ludendorff Order mentioned by Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters, the whole purport of which is the necessity for economising man-power:—Owing to our reduced strength in line it will frequently be impossible to make the front line a continuous line of trenches, but it will almost always be found possible to create centres of resistance concealed from No Man's Land.

EARLIER CABLES.

SPOILS OF WAR.

LONDON, August 14th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The battle front is comparatively quiet, except for increased hostile artillery firing.

We captured prisoners at different points.

Raiding and patrol activity is reported to the south of the Scarpe, north-eastward of Robecq and in the neighbourhood of Vieux-Berquin.

Since August 8th the French First Army and the British Fourth Army have captured over 28,000 prisoners, including 800 officers, of whom eight are regimental commanders. They also took 600 guns, including many "heavies," several thousand machine-guns, numerous trench-mortars, also three complete trains and vast stocks of stores.

ENEMY HURRYING UP REINFORCEMENTS.

LONDON, August 13th.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing this afternoon, states:—The Allied drive from Montdidier to north of the Somme has reached a comparatively quiet stage. The enemy is still hurrying up reinforcements, and is employing gas to the utmost capacity. His main concentration of reserves is around Roye, which he is manifestly anxious to retain, at least for the present.

The Australians, who have been fighting in the region of Proyart and St. Germain's Wood, met with a strong machine-gun resistance in Madame Wood.

The Canadians, also, have improved their positions on the right of their front.

GERMANY'S WANING MAN-POWER.

An order signed by Ludendorff, which has been lately captured, indicates the anxiety of the Higher Command regarding man-power. It is dated June 25th. Another order practically admits the Allies' supremacy in the air.

Since August 8th well over 300 Divisions must have been heavily engaged by the British, Americans and French.

The total German casualties on the Western Front since the beginning of Marshal Foch's counter-offensive are about 360,000 and the guns lost during the same time about 1,200.

Prisoners state that from more than one place drafts lately sent to reinforce the infantry are composed largely of artillerymen.

The enemy removed or destroyed a large number of aerodromes in the Somme area, which somewhat disorganised his air service.

AERIAL OPERATIONS.

There was much air-fighting. We brought down 30 and drove down seven enemy machines uncontrollable.

We dropped 45 tons of bombs during the day. Peronne and Cambrai stations being heavily assailed. Twelve British machines are missing.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

FRENCH FIGHTING IN DIFFICULT COUNTRY.

LONDON, August 14th.

7.30 a.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing last evening, states:—General Humbert, whose front, as a result of those days' progress, now faces east instead of north, re-attacked the Lassigny or Thiescourt—massif positions to-day. His left heavily counter-attacked and remained on the defensive, but his right pushed forward all round the western and southern edges of Little Switzerland and reached Plessier-de-Roye Park, and the village Belval, where General Humbert's same army stopped von Hutier's rush last March, after one of the bloodiest fights of the year.

To-day's battle raged till the evening, when the French held Saint Claude Farm and Ecouvillon, two of the most important points on the massif.

The fighting was most difficult, the enemy holding a front thinly with almost as many machine-guns as men, and their whereabouts were most difficult to locate.

The enemy is filling the valleys, passes and woods with mustard gas, and the French are fighting their way with rifles and grenades, advancing over broken country by infiltration methods.

The enemy's tactics indicate that he is retiring, but to a not distant defensive line.

FRENCH GRIP TIGHTENING.

Paris, August 14th.

A semi-official report states:—Our patient advance by local actions has brought us to within less than a mile of Lassigny, whose wooded clump of heights protects

Noyon and commands the communications between the Oise and Ailette Valleys. Hence the desperate enemy resistance, but our grip is tightening and will shortly result in the close encirclement of the position.

Our troops are biting into and reducing all sides of the massif, which will fall at the chosen moment.

A lull on the rest of the front between the Aisne and the Aisne is an inevitable entr'acte between two manœuvres. Meanwhile, there is ceaseless activity in our lines, preparing for fresh successes.

ACTIVE MUTUAL ARTILLERY FIRING.

Paris, August 14th.

A "communiqué" states:—Between the Aisne and the Oise there was active mutual artillery firing, notably in the Roye-sur-Matz and Conchy-les-Pots sectors.

On the Vesle front there were enemy raids, but without result.

A French raid in the region of Meunier-Hurlus yielded prisoners.

RESULTS OF THE ALLIES' OFFENSIVE.

LONDON, August 14th.

8.50 p.m.

The Franco-British offensive, begun on August 8th, between the Aisne and the Aisne, is a continuation and a counterpart of the offensive of July 18th, between the Aisne and the Marne. Their immediate results are similar; firstly, the liberation of Chateau Thierry and the end of the menace to Epernay; the liberation of Montdidier, and the end of the menace to Amiens; secondly, the freeing of the great railway line from Paris to Chalons, also the line from Paris to Amiens, thus rendering a rupture impossible between the French armies in the centre, and to the east, and between the French and the British armies; thirdly, the collapse of the German plan consisting of the thrusting of a number of salients into the Allied front, the progressive extension of which was bound to end in the dislocation of the front. Now the salient at Montdidier, after that at Chateau Thierry, has just been reduced, and all the benefits of the manœuvre of the German High Command have thus been lost.

[THROUGH HAVAS AGENCY.]

GERMANS EXPERIENCE FORMIDABLE CHECK.

Paris, August 13th.

Yesterday, the battle was marked by an interval of pause between the Aisne and the Oise, which became normal after four days' uninterrupted fighting and we continued to advance. The enemy, to avoid still greater disaster, made tremendous efforts to keep Roye and the line from Chaulnes to Noyon. Therefore, he counter-attacked, but the German divisions of the reserve army were unable to gain an inch of ground.

Roye is threatened by the Allied troops, and Lassigny is no better situated. South of the Somme, the British took up their positions at Proyart. Anyway, whether the Germans evacuate Roye and Lassigny or not they will have experienced a formidable check. If forced to yield they will lose their principal bases for their offensive against Paris, besides losses in material, provisions, and men. If they succeed by costly efforts in keeping their positions on the present line it will only be after having exposed an important part of their reserves to our fire.

EARLIER CABLES.

ENEMY CLINGS DESPERATELY TO POSITIONS.

LONDON, August 13th.

10.10 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at the French Front, telegraphing this afternoon, states:—The enemy is desperately clinging to the western and southern edges of the Thiescourt Hills between Lassigny and the Oise.

The key to the whole position is Saint Claude Farm, on a hill 600 feet high, just east of Varenil-la-Motte, and dominating the whole region.

The French yesterday gained a footing at Brest, further north, between Gury and Bois-de-Loges.

The Germans hold a line of old entrenchments stuffed with machine-guns. The capture of Bois-de-Loges yesterday morning was a magnificent dash. The Germans, counter-attacking in the afternoon, reoccupied part of the wood.

Several thousands of prisoners have been taken by the French since August 8th, including three colonels; also over 200 guns, including "heavies," 1,600 machine-guns and a great number of *minenwerfer*, etc. The number of prisoners and guns captured increases every hour.

SIX SCORE FRENCH AVIATORS BOMB ENEMY COLUMNS.

The French air bombing squadrons played a most effective part in the battle, taking over the rôle of the "heavies," receiving information from swift scouting machines and hovering over the enemy lines prior to the great attack on Lassigny. One of our air scouts noticed dense columns of men and transport passing through the villages towards the front. The French sent 121 aeroplanes to attack them. Twenty-seven tons of bombs were dropped on the Germans in the streets of Lassigny. Men and horses were killed, fires were started, and the streets were blocked with wrecked wagons. The march of the German columns was retarded for hours.

EVACUATION OF ROYE EXPECTED.

The Lassigny massif was the hinge of the old German positions in the whole angle. Now that the hinge has burst the whole angle must yield. This effect should begin to materialise within 48 hours.

Experts state that the evacuation of Roye is to be expected very early, as the town is under our cross-fire.

GERMANS UNABLE TO LAUNCH A BIG ATTACK.

LONDON, August 14th.

10.10 p.m.

Reuter's Agency learns this evening that the French are now consolidating their gains on the Lassigny Ridge, although the latest news indicated that the Germans still held one point of the Ridge.

So far 23 enemy divisions have been identified in the present battle, of which 15 belong to the enemy's reserves.

The Germans are now reduced to the dangerous expedient of taking divisions from other parts of the front.

The latest authoritative figures of captures are 31,000 prisoners and 675 guns. Both figures are regarded as conservative estimates.

It is considered that the Germans will be unable to launch a big attack on another front for some time, owing to the shortage of man-power.

It is confirmed that the enemy is burning Peronne and Chalons and the villages between these towns.

On the Vesle front most vigorous fighting continues. The Germans are contenting themselves with defending their positions against the American attacks.

GERMAN EVACUATIONS INEVITABLE.

LONDON, August 13th.

8.35 p.m.

Reuter's Agency learns that the French now hold the whole of the Lassigny massif, commanding the town of Lassigny and the valley of Divette, also the district to the north.

The captured guns have reached a total of 651, of which the British secured 400. The French gains on the massif have already forced the Germans to evacuate the long line of trenches in the Oise Valley, and further evacuations are inevitable.

As soon as the artillery can be moved up—Noyon will be under gunfire, and road transport on the whole network of roadways around Noyon will become a difficult problem for the enemy.

FRENCH REACH BELVAL.

Paris, August 14th.

A "communiqué" states:—During the day we renewed our attacks between the Matz and the Oise, despite strong resistance.

We made some progress north-east of Gury.

We gained a footing in the Plessier-de-Roye Park and reached Belval.

Further east we carried our lines to two kilometres north of the village Cambranne.

AMERICANS BOMB RAILWAY YARDS.

LONDON, August 14th.

1.40 a.m.

An American official report states:—Our aviators successfully bombed the railroad yards at Longuyon, Dommary, Barancourt, and Conflans. All our machines returned.

THE WAY OF THE DESTROYER.

Paris, August 13th.

The *Petit Journal's* Correspondent at the British Front says that Chaplains, Carbondel, Suzanne, Melicourt and Peronne are burning.

Aerial Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ALLIED AIR SUPREMACY.

LONDON, August 14th.

A German Air Headquarters Order confining to the Allied air supremacy reads:—"All the regiments have repeatedly complained of the low-flying of enemy aeroplanes which are not interfered with by our fighter machines. It is pointed out that Headquarters aircraft resources are so low and the machines available are so busily engaged in reconnaissance work that they cannot be expected to engage the enemy low-fliers. The infantry must arrange for their own defence against aircraft. The brigade has decided that future complaints from units which have been harassed by low-fliers will not be forwarded."

EARLIER CABLES.

RAF CONTINGENT ACTIVE.

LONDON, August 16th.

The Air Ministry announces:—Our aeroplanes on the night of August 12th attacked an aerodrome, trains, anti-aircraft guns and other targets with bombs and machine-guns. All returned.

They also attacked on the 13th inst. the Buhl aerodrome, and brought down one hostile machine in flames. All our machines returned.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIAN THRUSTS.

LONDON, August 14th.

7.15 p.m.

An Italian official report states:—Under effective concentrations of artillery fire in the Tonale region we carried out thrusts and occupied Mont Montello, Punta-di-San Matteo and the spur to the south-eastward of Cimazigolon, capturing over 100 prisoners.

Our batteries set fire to supply depots on the left bank of the Piave.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SHIPPING DISASTERS.

Paris, August 14th.

The Messageries liner *Djemnah*, with military passengers, in an escorted convoy, was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean on the night of July 14th.

Four hundred and forty-two persons are missing.

The Messageries liner *Australien*, which was torpedoed and set on fire, foundered in the Mediterranean on July 19th.

Seventeen of the crew were killed.

Nine hundred and forty-eight passengers were saved.

Three persons are missing.

Another ship in the *Australien's* convoy was torpedoed, but not sunk.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RICE PROFITEERING IN JAPAN.

LONDON, August 13th.

The *Times* correspondent at Tokio, telegraphing on August 10th, states:—There has been a succession of demonstrations by women in various parts of Japan against the rice profiteers.

EMPEROR KARL AT GERMAN HEADQUARTERS.

AMSTERDAM, August 14th.

A message from Vienna states that Emperor Karl has proceeded to the German Main Headquarters, accompanied by the Foreign Minister and Chief of the General Staff.

REWARD FOR SPECIAL WAR SERVICES.

LONDON, August 14th.

The *Gazette* announces that Sir James Brunyate has been promoted Commander of the Star of India in recognition of special war services.

Sir James Brunyate has just returned from the United States, where he was attached to Earl Reading's staff as Adviser on Indian currency and Eastern exchange questions.

[THROUGH HAVAS AGENCY.]

RESTRICTION TO ALSACE-LORRAINE.

Paris, August 14th.

At a distribution of prizes to school-children at Thann, a reconquered part of Alsace, Mr. John Weare, formerly of the United States Steel Products Co., addressed the assembly, saying:—"What we wish is the establishment of a reign of law based upon the consent of the governed and supported by the organized opinion of humanity. Restitution to Alsace-Lorraine is necessary. To us Americans this restitution appears as symbolic resume of the motives which decided the United States to enter the war."

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

KING GEORGE AT THE FRONT.

A STRENUOUS WEEK.

LONDON, August 13th.

His Majesty King George the Fifth has returned to London from France, where His Majesty spent a most strenuous week on the Western Front.

His Majesty covered many hundreds of miles seeing all that was possible of the immense military machine.

His Majesty was entertained at luncheon by the King and Queen of the Belgians.

His Majesty visited Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, General Pershing, Marshal Foch, and a number of French, American and British Generals.

His Majesty conferred the K.C.B. upon General Debeney.

His Majesty spent a whole day with the Fourth British Army, and traversed much of the newly-won territory.

LATEST CABLES.

THE ROYAL ITINERARY.

LONDON, August 14th.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters states:—His Majesty the King arrived at Franke on August 5th, and immediately inspected the methods of landing heavy material like tanks, big guns and locomotives. His Majesty inspected the base depots, and motored to the casualty clearing-station, chatting with the wounded fresh from the fighting. Then followed a strenuous tour of the front, His Majesty covering on an average one hundred miles daily in wet and dreary weather.

His Majesty was everywhere cheered by the troops and civilians. Once a road was shelled as His Majesty passed. Visits to instruction camps, forestry schools, and aerodromes were items in the long programme.

His Majesty lunched with President Poincare and Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig on August 7th.

The most interesting day was August 10th, when there was a demonstration by tanks of every type. American troops, labour battalions, a Portuguese division, and an Australian aerodrome were among the units inspected.

His Majesty attended special inter-denominational service on August 11th within the sound of the guns, after which His Majesty reviewed the troops, witnessing a march-past in which 20 British divisions and an American division were represented.

His Majesty returned to England on August 13th.

KING VISITS AMIENS.

Paris, August 14th.

His Majesty King George IV included visits to Amiens and Villers-Bretonneux, also the Roye road, where His Majesty warmly congratulated the French troops in the sector adjoining the front of the British attack.

(Continued on Page 6.)

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It is always sought after. Any expenditure, however, which promotes one's well-being is a sound investment. Good health, undoubtedly, is one of the greatest assets a man or woman can possess for without it none can be at their best physically or mentally. Minus good health, the joy of life is dimmed. Beecham's Pills are a paying investment for all who desire to promote and maintain good health. It is wise to have recourse to this wonderful specific at the first signs of indigestion. When the stomach is disordered, when the appetite is poor, when the bowels are irregular, the liver sluggish or you feel generally out of sorts you cannot do better than take a few doses of this world-famous medicine. You will certainly benefit. There are ample returns in health and satisfaction for all who invest in the remedy of

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A few drops only are necessary to give a delicious and appetizing flavour to the plainest dish.

A far larger quantity of a cheaper sauce fails to give the same satisfaction.

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THE WAR.

(Continued from Page 5.)

General.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT IN BULGARIA.

LONDON, August 13th.
The German papers state that there is a republican movement in Bulgaria.

FOOD RIOTS IN SPAIN.

PARIS, August 13th.
News from Madrid shows that there have been food riots in various towns in Spain.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

GOVERNMENT SYSTEM EVERYWHERE COLLAPSING.

LONDON, August 13th.
The news from Russia is so very confused, but it is clear that the German and Bolshevik system of government is everywhere collapsing before the country-wide but disorganised counter-revolution, the effects of which will probably be felt in the Baltic Provinces, and possibly even in Roumania.

LENIN AND TROTSKY.

It is reported that Lenin and Trotsky have found Kronstadt unsafe, and have gone to Pskov, where they will be under the protection of the German troops.

REMOVAL OF THE GERMAN EMBASSY.

AMSTERDAM, August 13th.
The *Fossische Zeitung* significantly describes the shifting of the Embassy to Pskov as a retreat from Russia and ruefully observes that although Russia is torn by civil war she is still able to find energy and unanimity to tear up the Brest-Litovsk Treaty.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE CZECHO-SLOVAKS.

LONDON, August 13th.
The Press Bureau announce:—The Government has issued a declaration that Great Britain regards the Czecho-Slovaks as an Allied nation and recognises the unity of the three Czecho-Slovak armies as an Allied belligerent army waging regular warfare against Austria-Hungary and Germany; and Great Britain also recognises the right of the Czecho-Slovak National Council to act as the present trustee for the future Czecho-Slovak Government, and to exercise supreme authority over this army.

CIVILIAN GERMANY ENJOINED TO KEEP COOL.

AMSTERDAM, August 14th.
The *Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung* writes:—"Events in the West have taken a critical turn, and the faint-hearted have lost all confidence and fear further setbacks. Reports from the West undeniably have had a depressing influence on many classes of the population."
Continuing, the paper appeals to all to keep cool.

FINLAND'S KING.

LONDON, August 13th.
The *Times* correspondent at Stockholm states that the majority of the Finnish Diet favor a Monarchy for Finland. The necessary formalities are now being taken for the election of a King.

TWO PENCE IN THE SHILLING LUXURY TAX.

LONDON, August 13th.
The Luxury Tax Committee's report, which has been issued, recommends a duty of 2d. in the shilling on the purchase price of the following:—Jewellery, furs, goods, perfumes, pictures, motor-cars, grand pianos, player pianos, gramophones, liquors, etc., on meals, breakfast, if exceeding 3s., lunch, if exceeding 10s., dinner, if exceeding 3s. Also taxes will be levied on clothing and tobacco above the fixed minimum.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, August 14th.
The silver market is quiet.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

THEFT OF KEROSENE OIL.

A Chinese was charged with stealing two tins of kerosene oil from the Asiatic Petroleum Co.'s premises at North Point. An Indian watchman said that on Wednesday evening, after all the coolies had left the workshop, defendant came back and stole two tins of kerosene oil, which he hid. Witness then arrested defendant.

Mr. Wood sentenced defendant to one month's hard labour.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF IRON.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of an old piece of iron.

Mr. Wood fined defendant \$1, with the alternative of four days' hard labour.

Another Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of an iron girder.

Defendant said he was engaged by a marine hawk to carry the iron.

Mr. Wood fined defendant \$3, with the alternative of fourteen days' hard labour.

ALLEGED ASSAULT.

A Chinese was charged with assaulting his uncle, his aunt, and another Chinese lady; also with wounding them with a chopper.

Inspector Macdonald stated that all the complainants were still in hospital. Defendant's uncle, who is a licensed opium-seller living at 352, Queen's Road, had promised to secure a job for defendant, who was unemployed. On Wednesday night defendant noticed his uncle hand \$37 to his aunt, and later that night defendant attacked his uncle, who was asleep, with a chopper. The injured man, who had three wounds on the head, cried out for assistance, and his wife came on the scene. She, too, was assaulted, sustaining three wounds on various parts of her body. Another woman who intervened was also injured. Defendant then threw the chopper away and attempted to jump over the verandah of the building, but was prevented from doing so by the inmates.

Mr. Wolfe remanded the case.

UNWELCOME VISITOR TO A MARRIAGE FEAST.

A Chinese *likony* was charged with assaulting two Chinese men and a Chinese woman.

Mr. Mattingley, who appeared for the prosecution, stated that complainants were taking part in a marriage celebration at 14, Wing Lee Street, when defendant came on the scene, standing at the door with a pistol in his hand. The guests at the wedding feast, seeing that he was armed, naturally came to the conclusion that he was a robber, and that assumption was furthermore intensified by the fact that they were all wearing their jewellery and ornaments. One of the complainants asked defendant what he wanted. Instead of replying, the latter seized complainant by the coat and struck him behind the ear with the pistol. Defendant then pushed complainant down, and commenced kicking him on the chest. A Chinese woman tried to separate the struggling men, and defendant thereupon struck her with the pistol. He also assaulted another man. Some of the bruises were still apparent.

One of the complainants corroborated the statement made by Mr. Mattingley, and said that the affray took place when he was counting up the expenses of the wedding. All the guests commenced running.

Defendant stated that he visited the house under orders. He was acting under a warrant which was carried by another Chinese detective. He had instructions from a senior detective to go in through the front of the house, while the others went to the kitchen. They went to raid what was supposed to be a gambling den. He noticed about fifteen persons sitting round the table, on which there were some dominoes. He walked to the verandah and told the people: "I am going to raid a house next door; don't you people move." He then saw people coming into the verandah of No. 14 from house No. 13, and ordered them not to run. There were three persons altogether, and they managed to escape owing to the complainants obstructing witness. He knocked down one of the complainants for this reason, but he did not point his revolver at them.

Mr. Wood: He prevented you from making an arrest. Why did you not arrest him?—Witness: I did not; I pushed all who were in my way.

Cross-examined by Mr. Mattingley, defendant admitted that he threatened to use force on complainant if he obstructed him in the discharge of his duties. He did not arrest anyone in No. 13, as he was all alone and there were several gamblers. Mr. Wood fined defendant \$5.

THE POLICE AND FIRE BRIGADE.

REPORT FOR 1917.

The Captain Superintendent of Police states that the total of all cases reported to the Police during the year 1917 was 9,308 as against 11,319 in 1916, being a decrease of 1,811 or 16 per cent.

In the division of these cases into serious and minor offences, there appears a decrease, as compared with 1916, of 63 cases or 2.64 per cent. in the former and of 1,713 cases or 22.03 per cent. in the latter.

Eleven murders were reported as against 12 in 1916. In connection with 4 of these reports, no arrest was made, and in the remaining 7 cases, arrests were made. There were 3 cases in which convictions were obtained (4 persons all of whom were convicted). In 4 cases there was no conviction (6 persons).

Seven cases of manslaughter were reported as against 9 in 1916. In all of these cases, arrests were made. There was one case in which conviction was obtained (3 persons all of whom were convicted). In 6 cases there was no conviction (3 persons).

Thirty-five gang robberies were reported as against 47 in 1916. In 23 cases no arrest was made; in the remaining 10 cases arrests were made. There were 9 cases in which convictions were obtained (30 persons of whom 23 were convicted and 7 discharged). In one case there was no conviction (3 persons).

Twenty-five street and highway robberies were reported as against 16 in 1916. In 20 cases no arrest was made; in the remaining 5 cases arrests were made. In all of these 5 cases convictions were obtained (7 persons, of whom 6 were convicted and one discharged).

Ten cases of robbery on boats and junks were reported as against two in 1916. In 8 cases no arrest was made; in the remaining two cases arrests were made. In all of these two cases convictions were obtained (5 persons, of whom 4 were convicted and one discharged).

The estimated value of property stolen during the year was \$289,722.19 as against \$296,817.70 in 1916, an increase of \$29,140.49. (The value of property stolen in larcenies by bailee during the year 1917 amounts to \$69,691.33; which are included in the above figures).

The value of property recovered and restored to owners was \$11,167.45 as against \$60,428.17 in 1916, an increase over property recovered in the previous year of \$10,739.68.

The following arms and ammunition were confiscated during the year, viz.:—18 Winchester rifles, 4 rifles, 61 Mauser pistols, 7 automatic pistols, 103 revolvers, 4 muskets, 1,838 rounds of Winchester ammunition, 384 rounds of automatic pistol ammunition, 28,619 rounds of Mauser pistol ammunition, 11,952 rounds of revolver ammunition, and 100 detonators.

Eight hundred and forty-two persons were identified as having previous convictions against them, an increase of 164 as compared with 1916. Sixty-two identifications were those of criminals who had returned from banishment.

The strength of the Police Force on December 31st, 1917, was 1,267 as compared with 1215 in 1916. The increase, however, was in Chinese. The European contingent present in the Colony fell to 98 from the establishment of 160, there being 49 on active service, 5 absent on leave, and 8 vacancies. The expenditure on the Force fell from \$703,743 to \$694,115. In 1914 the figure was \$780,100.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

The report of the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade shows that there were 20 fires and 98 incipient fires during the year against 25 and 56 in 1916.

The estimated damage caused by fires was \$373,339 and by incipient fires \$2,014, against \$229,439 and \$1,817.80 in 1916.

The brigade turned out 39 times during the year, as in 1916.

Towards the close of the year 1916, twenty more European Police, some of whom were members of the Fire Brigade, were chosen to proceed to England to join the Army. The vacancies in the Brigade were filled by enrolling other members of the Regular Police Force, but the men, being more scattered and all could not attend at a fire at the same time without seriously interfering with the carrying on of the ordinary Police duties. To meet these circumstances, the formation of a Volunteer Fire Brigade was considered and approved of by H.E. the Governor on January 26th, 1917. The members of the Brigade were drawn from the Volunteer Corps and Police Reserve. Major MacDonald, the engineer of the brigade, rendered great assistance in recruiting the men, who were chosen from those having previous and useful experience and also with consideration to the places in which they lived so as to be handy for fire calls. The present strength of the Volunteer Force is 31, of whom 12 are Active Members, that is, members who attend all fires, and the remainder hold themselves in readiness for emergencies. The Volunteer Fire Brigade has been a distinct success, and has fully met the purposes for which it was instituted.

THE POST OFFICE.

REPORT FOR 1917.

The report on the General Post Office, Hongkong, for the year 1917 states that Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, who had been Postmaster General since 1913, was promoted to First Police Magistrate on the 1st February, and Mr. S. B. C. Ross was appointed in his stead.

The number of mail bags and packets despatched from Hongkong during the year amounted to 123,691 as against 123,238 in 1916, an increase of 453; and the number received to 116,047 as against 115,678, an increase of 369. Four thousand, four hundred and fifteen steamers carrying mails arrived and 3,893 left in 1917 as compared with 4,023 and 3,233 respectively in 1916.

Registered and insured articles handled by the General Post Office amounted to 765,678 as against 733,767 in 1916, an increase of 29,911.

Registered articles *via* Siberia amounted to 32,012 as compared with 33,410, a decrease of 21,407.

Parcels, ordinary and insured, handled by the General Post Office amounted to 153,168 as compared with 119,388, an increase of 15,779.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total revenue from the Postal Service in 1917 amounted to \$103,860.87, being \$2,127.34 more than that collected in 1916. The expenditure amounted to \$239,214.53, being less than that of 1916 by \$45,321.50, due to the high rate of exchange prevailing during the year under review. The balance of revenue over expenditure was \$141,633.04.

MONEY ORDERS.

The anticipations of a continued expansion in postal remittances, based on the satisfactory revival in 1916, were not realised in 1917. The large decrease of \$14,838 in orders drawn on India is accounted for by the restrictions imposed upon remitters by the Indian Post Office. In 1916 there was no limit to the amount which might be sent by any one remitter, but in 1917 no remitter could send more than 600 rupees in any one day. At the request of India this restriction has been made more stringent and not more than 600 rupees per week can be sent by any one remitter. The increase in inward orders has, however, balanced the decrease in outward orders and the year's volume of business is only £101 less than it was in 1916.

The continuous rise in exchange was a great hardship to Chinese in the United Kingdom and the reduced number of dollars obtained here in exchange for sterling deterred many from remitting more of their savings than was actually required for the upkeep of their families in China.

Decreases of \$1,153 and \$2,267 respectively appear in the issue and payment of British Postal Orders, due in the former case to the restriction of the amount that may be paid in India and in the latter to the high rate of exchange.

CHINESE CORRESPONDENCE.

During the year the Chinese Delivery Section of the General Post Office handled 1,604,611 ordinary letters, 85,750 other articles, and 7,623 postal hong packets. The registered articles delivered amounted to 321,637, of which 144,801 were from the United States of America and Canada, and 87,038 from China and other countries, showing a decrease of 2,401 as compared with 234,238 in 1916. There were insured letters dealt with as against 1,322 in 1916.

TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

The revenue collected in 1917 from radio-telegrams amounted to \$23,311.55, being \$14,616.51 more than that collected in 1916—the excess being mainly due to Press messages sent to India-China. Advances of vessels signalled at the light-houses yielded \$503.35 and semaphore messages \$2.50, making a total of \$23,817.40 for the telegraphic service. The expenditure amounted to \$39,174.38, of which sum \$17,935.71 was in respect of the emoluments of the Wireless Staff at the Cape d'Aguilar Station for the period from 15th July, 1915, to 31st December, 1916. The number of radio-telegrams forwarded during the year was 846, consisting of 106,114 words and received 1,023 consisting of 12,353 words.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the early part of the year Mr. Santa Barbara, the Inspector of Portuguese Posts, visited the Colony and a complete postal agreement between the Province of Macao and Hongkong was drawn up and signed. This agreement, which among other things, provides for the exchange of Cash on Delivery Parcels, came into force on 1st September.

The Shanghai-Bombay Section of the P. & O. Contract Mail Service was suspended as from 1st July. The mails for Europe, *via* Suez, were forwarded as opportunities offered to Bombay for transmission from thence to England by P. & O. packets.

Owing to dislocation and uncertainty of the trans-Siberian Railways and the restriction of the Suez route, the mails for Europe were to a great extent forwarded by the Pacific route either *via* Canada or *via* the United States.

Arrangements were made during the year with the Canadian Postal Administration for the transmission of Parcels for Europe by Canadian Services. The first Parcel Mail for Liverpool by this route was despatched on 8th November by the *Empress of Japan*. This service, although more expensive than *via* Suez, is very much appreciated by the public, who are using it to an increasing extent.

On the 7th August the privilege of free postage was granted to all troops in the Command. During the period 7th August to 31st December 73,378 letters, 2,052 post cards, and 2,389 other articles were posted free, 2,095 post cards, and 2,288 other articles were posted free. The loss to the Postal Revenue was \$3,064.18.

The Post Office Staff worked under great disadvantages. They were short handed and the uncertainty, as to the times at which mails from Europe might arrive gave them little time in which to call up for extra duty. The Staff, in my opinion (writes Mr. S. B. C. Ross, Postmaster-General), deserve great praise for the way in which they have worked with cheerfulness for long hours.

A GERMAN LEAGUE OF NATIONS

DERNBURG'S PROPOSAL TO GET RAW MATERIALS

Although Count von Hertling, Imperial Chancellor of the German Empire, may scoff, or "smile sceptically," as he recently has been reported to have done in Reichstag speeches, and newspaper interviews, at the idea of a league of nations to maintain peace after the war, Dr. Dernburg, former Colonial Minister and a leading spokesman of the big German trading interests, insists upon the practicability and advantages of such a plan.

In a lengthy article printed in the *Neue Freie Presse* of Vienna and briefly mentioned in a Geneva cablegram on June 5th, Dr. Dernburg, after paying tribute to the effectiveness of the blockade enforced by the Allies, recalls the utterances of American and Allied statesmen regarding the application of this principle after the war, and, as quoted by the London *Times*, goes on:

"Our reply can only be this:—The Central Powers are fighting for their integrity and for capacity to develop, and as they are industrial peoples, unhindered supply at all times—or, every thing that we generally comprehend in the term 'freedom of the seas'—is indispensable to this end. A peace that does not make effective provision for this freedom is no peace that the Central Powers can concede, nor will such a peace be concluded by them, unless the *Entente* should be able to administer to us the 'knock-out blow'."

FEARS CONTEST OF ENDURANCE

Lord Lansdowne, who, if we judge him by his whole earlier attitude, is the most "English" among our adversaries, recently expressed a doubt whether, if the war ended in a peace not of understanding but of subjection, it would after all be the *Entente* that would be in a position to act in accordance with Lloyd George's famous precept. "If, therefore, the *Entente* abides by its threat, and if it proves impossible to carry through the supply of raw materials as a condition of peace, then the war will merely continue, and it becomes a question of whether the Central Powers are economically strong enough to continue to endure being cut off from the sources of raw material. For the fact that the *Entente* Powers are not our equals in the military sense is now more certain than ever."

"There can be no doubt but that in this direction our prospects have extraordinarily improved. A vast territory lies open before us in the east; time and patience will be needed in order to organize our supplies from that quarter, but as we alone hold in our own hands the highways of supply we can exclude any competition by others and strike our own roots deep into the interior of Asia. Equally little doubtful is the fact that our enemy's provisioning prospects are continually becoming darker, since in the enemy countries the scarcity of foodstuffs is gradually assuming the same acute form as in Central Europe, and so we shall be able to say that since, in general, as regards transport, foodstuffs take priority over raw materials, the supply of the latter, too, must be running short, in the case, at any rate, of some among our enemies."

Nevertheless, Dr. Dernburg seems quite clear in his belief that the threatened boycott would weigh heavily in the peace scales, even when balanced against the territorial gains of the Central Powers. For the return of all the German colonies, with a good slice of Africa thrown in, would enable the Central Powers to satisfy their own requirements in raw material. Neutral sources of supply are scarce and inadequate, he admits, and, as nearly all the world has ranged itself on the side of Germany's enemies, there is nothing to prevent all these countries from maintaining their war legislation after the conclusion of peace. He then says:

"England and her dominions have already made a beginning by recently adopting the Nonferrous Metals Act, which provides that for five years after the conclusion of peace all nonferrous metals in the British Empire that is to say, just the very metals that we need—may be sold only in accordance with the prescriptions of the Board of Trade. Notwithstanding the tremendously flourishing growth of our substitute industry, the peace in the end will not be able to afford us fully equivalent compensation for the trade with three-quarters of the world and the failure of these sources of raw materials. As there are still a large number of persons who look at things only from the point of view of the situation as presented by the war map in Europe, this reminder is not inappropriate."

The coming peace, therefore, must include as one of its most important points the re-opening and permanent keeping open of the market and raw material areas for the Central Powers, who also for many years past have shown an overweening bias—in a word, the freedom of the seas must be secured."

HOPES FOR BARGAIN WITH ALLIES

Dr. Dernburg goes on to argue that the Central Powers likewise have something to barter, not the least being the German chemical products, of which, in his opinion, American agriculture in particular is coming more and more to stand in need. The Germans, moreover, will find in the Russian and Further East compensation for the loss of many products. The trumps, therefore, are not all in one hand.

An understanding, he thinks, should be all the easier. With Molke, he does not believe in the probability of a war of annihilation on the part of either the Central or the *Entente* Powers, but rather that a general exhaustion will supervene. "This exhaustion," he says, "will set in, if the reasonableness and readiness for an understanding which have for years been present in the Central Powers do not also infect our enemies."

The whole world is in the same state, he asserts, including the United States, with its transport and shipbuilding difficulties. As regards consumption, every nation is, so to speak, "living on its own fat." On the basis of the German Admiralty returns, Dr. Dernburg estimates

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE EDUCATION BILL

WHAT THE CONTINUATION CLAUSE MEANS

The *Guardian* of June 6th contains some interesting notes on the resistance of employers of labour to the proposals of the new Education Bill to carry on the education of children to the age of 18 or 17—which would be excellent for the children and greatly to the distaste of manufacturers.

Lancashire's fight against the Continuation School proposals of the Education Bill, the *Guardian* says, has not yet been fully fought out; but two of the many amendments designed to whittle down those proposals have now been negatived in Committee. There was first an amendment that Continuation Education should be given only to selected children. This was supported on the ground that the proposals of the Bill are not yet fully understood, and that it would be wiser, in the first instance, to give this instruction only to those who, up to the age of fourteen, have shown the greatest aptitude. So vital an alteration would strike at the whole basis of the measure, which is to prevent the waste involved in our present inefficient system. We are spending thirty millions a year on Elementary Education, but most of it is wasted because this "education" comes to an end before it has had time to fructify. Children are turned out into the world in thousands essentially ignorant and barely able even to spell correctly. Moreover, a secondary—if it is secondary—object of the Continuation Schools will be to improve the physique of young people, which the war has shown to be seriously defective. Physical exercises will form an important part of the curriculum, and it would be absurd to withdraw these advantages from a large proportion of the children.

Next an attempt was made to place attendance at Continuation Schools on a voluntary basis. We agree that it would be better to have a voluntary arrangement of this kind than not to have it at all, if we could be sure that any real advantage would be taken of it. But we do not believe that it would; and so long as elementary education is compulsory there is no logical reason why continuation education should not be compulsory also. The one point that we must steadily keep before us is that, now that the country will be, under the new electoral law, upon a completely democratic basis, it is vital that the democracy should be educated. We dare not trust the future of the Empire to an ignorant electorate, inexperienced in affairs, and eager for change and novelty for their own sakes. Nothing steadies like knowledge. It is the one real safeguard for nations as for individuals: the one safe cure for that irresponsible sentimentalism which throws nations back as surely as obstinate clinging to an old order which has become impossible. There is already far too much anxiety to alter everything and to accept tremendous changes without realizing all that they import. Reasonable caution is the best aid to government, and reasonable caution has hitherto been the finest asset of the English people.

that in ships and cargoes alone the Central Powers last year destroyed the equivalent of over \$5,000,000,000. In his opinion, the universal scarcity of shipping will not be made good even by the re-entry of the British and German merchant marines.

Dr. Dernburg reaches his main theme, an economic League of Nations, by the following stages:—The Central Powers have not dropped the idea of a League of Nations and of international arbitration. "The reply to the Papal Note still binds our Governments to-day." The necessity for such arrangements exists and "if the freedom of the seas is laid down in treaties of peace, which must embrace some thirty sovereign States, this principle must also be guaranteed."

Herr Dernburg rejects the German assumption that "the whole of this world is placed at the prospect of being able to resume business intercourse with the Central Powers," and adds:—"Freedom of the seas and the supply of raw materials, therefore, must not only be demanded, but it must be possible, if need be, to extort them by force. This applies all round. So, too, with our exports to the raw material countries, since only this trade can create the counter-values, without which large imports of raw materials are not feasible."

WORLD RATIONING SUGGESTED.

"On the conclusion of peace the world will realize that the stocks of raw materials are low, and that a considerable part of them is in State hands. The whole world, therefore, will have to ration itself," Dr. Dernburg says, on a plan which he outlines as follows:—

"All countries shall formally agree that raw materials are to be distributed, shipped, and paid for in accordance with previously determined principles, under the auspices of an international distribution committee invested with arbitral powers. Such an arrangement cannot be forced through, sword in hand, and with the weapons of war. The establishment of the ration standard will be difficult, but problems even more difficult have been solved."

"Eventually it will come to this: that a large part of the world's shipping will sail under uniform control; that the output of a large number of raw materials by the separate States within their borders for the common benefit will be rationed; if necessary, by force; and that a common basis of adjustment of goods, and of money will be created. In other words, the distribution of raw materials and of part of the goods for general consumption will have to remain for a certain period, limited as far as possible but not brief, in the hands of the States."

Dr. Dernburg deplores this prospect, but he argues that the trend of reconstruction everywhere is in the direction of State control, and that "the situation of large demands international distribution secured by international agreements which bind the States and do not leave a free hand to the individual—that is to say, there must be a League of Nations for the universal world supply of a humanity destitute of raw materials."—*New York Times*.

COUNT ARNIM'S PROPHECY

THROWS LIGHT ON GERMAN METHODS

(BY SYDNEY WALTON.)

A day or two ago I met in London Mr. N. Grattan Doyle, Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Durham. Mr. Doyle had just returned from France, he had had many meetings with men on the Western Front.

Mr. Grattan Doyle is the man who had the most remarkable pre-war interview of which modern history has any record. He was staying at Bad Nauheim for "the cure" at the same time and at the same hotel as Count von Arnim, and, meeting frequently, they were quickly on terms of intimacy.

Shortly before the time came for their departure, Mr. Doyle and his wife were invited to Count von Arnim's apartments, and this was the occasion of his declaration of Germany's glorious aim and ambition—his ecstatic prophecy of the Great War. He declared the plan of campaign and described it in the most minute detail:—Belgium violated, France devastated, Russia taken on the recoil, and then—England!

"I cannot understand why you have told me all this," Mr. Doyle observed at the close of his statement. "You must know that whatever influence I have will be used in endeavouring to rouse our people to a realization of the impending blow."

Count von Arnim laughed cynically. "I have no doubt you will," he said; "but nothing you say will be believed. You will be laughed at. They will think you are mad."

The Count was right. But recently, at the suggestion of a highly placed officer, he related the narrative at one of the meetings he addressed on the Western Front. The effect was electric.

Mr. Doyle has just repeated the narrative to me, and through it glowers the malign and menacing eye that sought to dominate the world.

MR. DOYLE'S STORY

Mr. Doyle's account of the interview I give in his own words:—

"It was in August of 1907 that my wife and I were staying at the Hotel Kaiserhof, where Count von Arnim was in residence. He was then about 70 years old—perhaps advancing beyond the age of discretion. In appearance the Count was gentlemanly, and quite unlike the typical German. For some years he had been German Ambassador in Paris, and he was Parisian and courtly in his manner. He spoke English perfectly. We met frequently and became quite friendly. One evening he invited me to his rooms."

"Give me an hour, and I will tell you something worth knowing," he said.

I went to his apartments and we talked for two hours. He was obsessed by the dream of world dominion; and in a burst of confidence, or indiscretion, he told me that he was one of five men who sat round a table in Bismarck's house in the summer of 1862. It was the historic meeting at which William I., Von Roon, Von Moltke, and Bismarck were present. Von Arnim attended at Bismarck's private secretary. It was at that meeting that the policy of Blood and Iron was first launched with the deliberate aim of World Conquest. It was then that Bismarck first mentioned what afterwards became an official formula with the German General Staff. That in the occupied territories through which the German armies marched, the inhabitants should be left "only their eyes to weep with."

The policy of world-dominion having been formulated, two years were occupied in completing details, and then, in 1864, it was decided to make war on Denmark.

"Historians differ," observed Count von Arnim, "and none of them has given the real reason for the war with Denmark. The real reason was that looking ahead to the Great War (which the Count predicted would take place in 1915), the Kiel Canal became a necessary part of German preparation. So Denmark was attacked, and the province of Schleswig-Holstein annexed. Soon afterwards the foundations of the Kiel Canal were laid."

In 1866 Austria became an easy prey. Much of the succeeding four years was taken up in carrying out the settled policy of goading France into war; but France being reluctant to fight, it was at last proposed to Bismarck to bring matters to the crisis by forging the Ems telegram, and so precipitating the war with France in 1870.

"Nobody outside Germany," proceeded Von Arnim, "and few apart from the principal actors, understood the real reason—which was this: Looking ahead, Bismarck and his colleagues saw that there was not sufficient iron in the German Empire to carry out the plot in its entirety when the Great War came. Therefore, we decided to attack France for the purpose of obtaining possession of the provinces of Lorraine, which contains all the iron ore necessary for Germany's purpose."

WAR A PAYING BUSINESS

"Of course, France had no chance in the beginning, because Prussia was prepared, and France was not. Well, we got the iron ore, and made the war a paying business. It only cost us 275,000,000, and we levied an indemnity of 200,000,000 from France, annexed the province of Lorraine and, whilst we had France lying defenceless at our feet, we

thought at the same time we might as well take the rich province of Alsace.

"Then we settled down for methodical preparation for the Great War, and you will see the outcome about the year 1915. We expect war in 1914 when the deepening of the Kiel Canal will be complete and the strategic railways to the Belgian frontier finished. Then we propose to devote a year to the final preparation of the details, so that there will be no doubt of the result when we strike. Oh! the glory of it!"

The Count paused as though he felt the thrill and ecstasy of "the Day."

When he resumed, he stated that the neutrality of Belgium would not be respected; predicted that England would not come into the war, and declared with easy confidence that it would be a short and decisive "affair"—a march through Belgium, Paris occupied, the French defeated, the Channel Ports annexed, and then the recoil on Russia, against which the whole might of German force would be concentrated in a decisive stroke.

"Peace-loving Britain," the Count observed confidently, "will not be in it." "When Mr. Grattan Doyle asked him why he was so certain that Britain would not enter the war, he was amazed at Von Arnim's easy intimacy with British affairs—showing the amount of accurate information which had been gathered and garnered by German spies."

His knowledge of the precise conditions in England was uncanny," Mr. Doyle commented. "He described to me, first of all, the individual members of the Government—their *personnel*, their means, their abilities, their influence amongst the people, and then catalogued the condition of industrial unrest, the growing strikes, the ferment in Ireland, the unrest in India, the activities of the women suffragists; and, finally, summed up by saying:—

"Such a Government will never make war, whatever the provocation. You have a pacifist Government and a pacifist people, who are engrossed in their own affairs and too busy in trying to stave off internal disaster to think of intervention in the Great War. And, when all our other measures of conquest have been carried out, we shall have England defenceless, without a friend in the world, and we shall settle down, to putting the coping stone upon the great work to which we have directed all the years of preparation—the destruction of the British Empire."

ENGLAND IN ECLIPSE

The rhapsody ended. Mr. Grattan Doyle asked Count von Arnim why he had told him all this—knowing, as he must do, that he would warn his countrymen.

The Count laughed lightly.

"Oh, you British people!" he exclaimed. "How trusting and unsuspecting you have been for the last generation. You are an incredulous people. You have translations of Nietzsche, and Treitschke, and Bernhardi—the chief exponents of our policy. You read these books, and you shrug your shoulders, and say: 'The men are mad.' It makes our task much easier."

Britain in the past has been the greatest colonizing and civilizing influence in the world. But, your people have become fat, lazy, effeminate, too cowardly to fight for what you have and too mean to pay for the sceptre that has fallen from the nerveless grasp of your people, and to take her place in the world. The German people are united, virile, patriotic, and believe in the destiny of the German Empire. I tell you of the Dawn."

He reached over for a volume of Treitschke and quoted:—

"England is at her height, and must inevitably soon decline. Who will seize her realm and her magnificence? Has not Germany a right to a place in the sun? Is this England so vast that growing old she has the right to bequeath her grandness to her kin across the seas? She cowers behind a fleet hating war and fearful of taking up arms, a timorous, craven people who will surrender to the first onslaught of the German legions. Her Colonies stand aloof from her, governing themselves, not subject to her ordering. India watches, but for the moment strikes her down. The English soldier is of poor courage and the Army beneath contempt."

"England is for ever begging us to disarm, because her strength is failing. England is in the autumn of her Empire, and her stolen fruit is for the gathering."

Press at every word of Germany's preparation for the Day of Reckoning—as it ran afoot through the streets of deceiving Rome when war came that the German was at her gates."

"These are my views, as well as those of Treitschke," said Von Arnim. "Repeat them to your unsuspecting British people. They will reply that we, and you, are mad."

And in this Count von Arnim was right. But he was wrong in one big thing. "I'm just back from the front," said Mr. Doyle, "where I've had my heart lifted up by one of Von Arnim's forgotten actors—the valiant spirit of British men. Against that rock the tide of treachery and cruel mastery will break in vain. Tommy Atkins is astride the thoroughfare, and he has the world's highwayman by the throat. And we are determined to make that highway a path of peace—a thoroughfare to the Dawn: not the Dawn of world dominion which Von Arnim waited and watched for, but the Dawn of a World Peace."

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